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QUANTIFYING COST OUTCOMES DIFFERENTIATED BY GENDER AND AGE IN THE TREATMENT OF MIGRAINE HEADACHE USING STEP AND STRATIFIED CARE

Furiak N, Bansal M
Medical Decision Modeling Inc., Indianapolis, IN, USA

OBJECTIVES: The objective of this study was to estimate the cost savings of STEP vs. Stratified (STRAT) migraine headache care differentiated by age and gender. **METHODS:** Migraine headaches are a prevalent disorder resulting direct costs of $2,571 per person per year on average which includes hospital visits and prescription drug costs. The indirect costs of migraine headaches are estimated to be about $13 billion a year indirectly affecting the workplace through an estimated $8 billion due to missed word days alone. A Monte Carlo microsimulation based upon previously published non-U.S. models was developed to evaluate the cost-benefit of stratified care based on MIDAS scores vs. the more commonly applied step care. Although STEP care delays the initiation of triptan therapy which is generally more costly and potentially habit forming, there may be cost-benefit from evaluating patient history and disease severity through MIDAS scores and advancing patients to more advanced therapies in severe cases. **RESULTS:** As expected, the greatest cost differences when adopting STRAT was for MIDAS III women age 40-49 due to the peak prevalence at this age/gender (STRAT vs. STEP =$547 vs. $1,572 per case) with similar trend found for males of the same age ($515 vs. $1,464). However, the cost differences for STRAT vs. STEP care for aged 60+ was significant ($136 vs. $326) and the difference for patients (age 12-17) was $199. Adoption of STRAT care in routine clinical practice yields differences of $1,025 and $949 per patient per year for females and males respectively. Further evidence shows that cost differences for those ages 60+ were $190, and those under age 30 were $199. **CONCLUSIONS:** Although the differences for the latter two age strata were smaller, they may have implications for specialized populations such as Medicare and Medicaid and the impact they have on plan budgets.

PND23

ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF DEXMEDETOMIDINE FOR SEDATION IN THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Lachaine J, Beauchemin C
University of Montreal, Montreal, QC, Canada

OBJECTIVES: Dexmedetomidine is an alpha-2 receptor agonist used in continuous infusion for the sedation of critically ill patients in intensive care unit who are intubated and mechanically ventilated. Compared to midazolam in the sedation of intensive care unit patients, dexmedetomidine showed a decrease in time spent on ventilator, fewer episodes of delirium and reduced incidence of tachycardia and hypertension. The aim of this study was to assess the economic impact, in a Canadian context, of dexmedetomidine for sedation in intensive unit care compare with midazolam, a GABA agonist. **METHODS:** This economic evaluation was performed using a cost-consequences analysis, according the perspective of Canadian Health Care system. The time horizon chosen is an intensive care unit stay with a maximum length of 30 days. Clinical data were obtained from a prospective randomized, double-blinded trial by Riker and al. comparing dexmedetomidine and midazolam. Costs considered in this evaluation were those of the medications, of the mechanical ventilation, of the delirium episodes, and those associated with adverse events requiring an intervention. All costs were adjusted to 2010 and were reported in Canadian dollars. **RESULTS:** The average cost of medication was higher with dexmedetomidine ($1,930) than with midazolam ($180), but the average cost associated with mechanical ventilation and with the management of delirium were lower with dexmedetomidine ($2,939 and $3,630 respectively) than with midazolam ($4,448 and $5,149). Overall cost per patient with dexmedetomidine ($8,525) was lower than with midazolam ($9,817). Deterministic sensitivity analysis confirmed the robustness of this difference. **CONCLUSIONS:** The results of this cost-consequences analysis indicated that the use of dexmedetomidine is a favorable strategy in terms of clinical consequences and economic impact compare to midazolam. Compared to midazolam, dexmedetomidine is a less expensive strategy associated with a lower occurrence of delirium and a shorter duration of mechanical ventilation.

PND24

QUALITY OF LIFE USING TREATMENTS FOR PARKINSON'S DISEASE: AN ECONOMIC COMPARISON BETWEEN ROPINIROLE AND LEVODOPA/CARBIDOPA

Patil DS, Shah AJ, Sansgiry S
University of Houston, Houston, TX, USA

OBJECTIVES: Parkinson's disease(PD) is the second common neuro-degenerative disease in US older adults. Until recently, Levodopa was the only treatment for PD. Although, Ropinirole is approved by FDA for PD, there are no cost-effectiveness studies comparing these treatments. The objective of our study is to perform cost-effectiveness analysis comparing Ropinirole and the combination therapy of Levodopa/Carbidopa in the treatment of PD. **METHODS:** A cost-effectiveness analysis was performed from the patient's perspective to compare Ropinirole and Levodopa/Carbidopa treatment in PD patients using a decision tree model as a pragmatic tool to derive comparative information on the costs and effectiveness of these two strategies over a 5-year period. A predictive model was developed to capture utilization, such as medication(drug) costs, physician costs, caregiver time, and productivity loss. Clinical information was derived from a comparative effectiveness study. All direct and indirect costs were obtained from pharmacists, published literature, and medical practitioners. Effectiveness was measured in terms of quality adjusted life years(QALY) reported in literature. Costs were adjusted to 2009 U.S. dollars. One way and two way sensitivity analyses with 25% change in cost and 20% change in QALY values were performed and incremental cost effectiveness ratio(ICER) was calculated. **RESULTS:** The Ropinirole therapy resulted in a gain of 2.82 QALY's at a cost of $107,062 compared to Levodpo/Carbidopa combination therapy which resulted in a gain of 2.35 QALY's at a cost of $102,423 at the end of 5 years. The expected cost per QALY was $37,965 for Ropinirole while that of Levodopa/Carbidopa combination was $43,584. One way and two way analyses were consistent, validating the results. ICER was found to be $9,870 per QALY for switching from Ropinirole to Levodopa/Carbidopa therapy. **CONCLUSIONS:** Our cost-effectiveness analysis indicates that Ropinirole is a better option as compared to Levodopa/Carbidopa for treatment of patient suffering from PD.

PND25

ECONOMIC TRENDS ASSOCIATED WITH NATALIZUMAB THERAPY IN A COMMERCIALY MANAGED MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS POPULATION

Pill M, Gilkin B
Gemini Healthcare, LLC, Westbrook, CT, USA

OBJECTIVES: Identify a population of multiple sclerosis (MS) patients new to treatment with natalizumab. Observe and record healthcare costs before initiation of natalizumab and up to 3 years after continuing treatment. Compare and quantify differences in costs based on patterns of natalizumab use. **METHODS:** Using integrated medical and pharmacy claims data (*IMS LifeLink™ Health Plan Claims and Longitudinal Prescriptions databases*), patients were included in the analysis based on the presence of a diagnosis of MS (ICD-9 code 340.*) during calendar years 2005 through 2008. Economic information related to the treatment of MS was captured using the Episode Treatment Group™ software. **RESULTS:** From the database, 76 MS patients that started natalizumab treatment and had 4 full calendar years of data were observed. These patients were observed for the year prior to start of natalizumab treatment in 2006, through the end of the 2008 calendar year. Patients were stratified by continued use of natalizumab during the study period. For all patients, there were significant increases in annual pharmacy costs ($17,667 to $40,399) during the year natalizumab treatment was initiated, in addition to outpatient medical services ($8,383 to $11,744). For patients who continued natalizumab for the entire study period, inpatient costs decreased from $2,630 to an average of $5 per year; emergency room costs in this group also decreased from a maximum of $537 to $218 annually. For patients who discontinued natalizumab during the study period, there were increased inpatient costs after discontinuation ($2,630 to $6,701). **CONCLUSIONS:** Though the study size is small, the cost observations can enable decision-makers to better understand costs associated with the short and longer-term use of natalizumab for the treatment of MS.

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MEASURING THE IMPACT OF NATALIZUMAB THERAPY ON HEALTH CARE UTILIZATION IN A COMMERCIALY MANAGED MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS POPULATION

Pill M, Gilkin B
Gemini Healthcare, LLC, Westbrook, CT, USA

OBJECTIVES: Identify a population of MS patients new to treatment with natalizumab. Observe and record healthcare utilization before initiation of natalizumab and up to 1 year after continuing treatment. Compare and quantify differences in healthcare utilization for the period prior to natalizumab treatment through the following calendar year. **METHODS:** Using integrated medical and pharmacy claims data (*IMS LifeLink™ Health Plan Claims and Longitudinal Prescriptions databases*), patients were included in the analysis based on the presence of a diagnosis of MS (ICD-9 code 340.*) during calendar years 2006 through 2008. Clinical and utilization information related to the treatment of MS were captured using the Episode Treatment Group™ (ETG™) episode-building software. **RESULTS:** From the database, 349 MS patients that were both new to natalizumab treatment in 2007 and had 3 full calendar years of data were observed. In the year of treatment initiation with natalizumab, there was an overall increase in the number of prescriptions received (14.0 to 22.6 per year), as well outpatient medical services (16.1 to 25.6) which would be expected with starting a new MS therapy. In addition to these increases, ER and inpatient utilization were also on the rise prior to initiation of natalizumab, however, utilization of ER and inpatient services significantly decreased in the following calendar year. During this period, there were also significant decreases in the amount of drugs used for supportive care of MS including corticosteroids, antispastic agents, and benzodiazepines. **CONCLUSIONS:** Healthcare costs were at their highest in the year natalizumab was initiated. Following initiation of natalizumab therapy, there was a decrease in ER, inpatient and supportive care utilization.

PND27

MEDICO-ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF LACOSAMIDE ADJUNCTIVE THERAPY IN THE TREATMENT OF PATIENTS WITH REFRACTORY EPILEPSY IN THE UNITED STATES

Benhaddi H[1], Helmers S[2]
[1]*UCB Group, Brussels, Belgium,* [2]*Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA, USA*

OBJECTIVES: To calculate and compare the incremental cost-utility ratios for standard antiepileptic drug (AED) therapy with and without adjunctive lacosamide in patients with uncontrolled partial-onset seizures. **METHODS:** The model simulated the treatment pathway of a hypothetical cohort of 1000 patients over two years from the third party payer perspective in the United States in 2010. A decision tree was split into four phases of six months each during which patients can become seizure free, experience a seizure reduction (responder defined as ≥50% reduction in seizures), or withdraw due to non-response. The standard therapy arm included five adjunctive therapies: carbamazepine, lamotrigine, levetiracetam, topiramate, and valproate. The likelihood of being in a particular health state